(b) if no, the availability of water per person in 1950 and at present; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to tackle the problem of shortage of water in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) was introduced from 1.4.1972. As on 14.2.2003, status of coverage of habitations under Rural Water Supply Programme is 14,22,664 habitations, out of which 14,350 are not covered, 1,12,792 partially covered and 12,95,522 fully covered. As per the latest assessment made by Central Water Commission (CWC), the average annual water availability in the river systems in the country is assessed at 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). The per capita water availability in the country in 1951 with a population of 361 million was 5177 BCM and in the year 2001 with a population of 1027 million was 1820 BCM.

(c) The Government proposes to cover all rural habitations with drinking water supply by 2004. Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State Subject. State Governments are competent to take necessary steps for dealing with any situation as all powers to sanction and implement water supply schemes have been delegated to them. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States for providing Drinking Water to all rural habitations by releasing funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Provision of 5% allocation under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme has been made to meet the contingencies in the rural drinking water supply sector arising out of natural calamities and other emergent situations.

Utilizing water from Malampuzha Dam in Kerala

1373. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware of any scheme for utilizing water from Malampuzha Dam in Kerala for industrial purpose by private entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that water in the dam is insufficient to cater to the irrigation demands of the region and also the drinking water supply to the Palaghat city and its suburbs;

(d) if so, whether such schemes would further strain the irrigation and drinking water system in the area; and

(e) if so, the criteria for permitting such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (d) Government of Kerala has reported that no permission has been given to any private entrepreneurs for utilizing water from Malampuzha Dam for industrial purpose.

(b) and (e) Do not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Irrigation facilities in H.P.

1374. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for providing irrigation facilities in Himachal Pradesh during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of financial assistance proposed to be granted to Himachal Pradesh for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject the responsibility of planning, funding and implementation of irrigation schemes including fixing the Tenth Five Year Plan targets for irrigation primarily rests with the State Government. As per its Tenth Five Year Plan/Annual Plan 2002-03 document, the Government of Himachal Pradesh has proposed a target of creating additional irrigation potential of 8000 hectare by means of major and medium irrigation projects and 10,000 hectare through minor irrigation schemes during the Tenth Plan period.